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premature births. The following is the classification of diseases:—Bones, joints, &c.; 2; brain and nerves, 77; generative organs, 4; heart and blood vessels, 11; lungs, throat, &c.; 90; skin, &c., and eruptive fevers, 7; stillborn and premature births, 31; stomach, bowels, and other digestive organs, 128; uncertain seat and general fevers, 30; urinary organs, 4; old age. The nativity table gives 255 natives of the United States, 63 of Ireland, 29 of Germany, and the balance of various European countries.

The sales of cotton yesterday reached about 1,000 bales, based upon middling uplands at about 9½c. Mobile do. at 9½c, and New Orleans do. at 9½c. Estimates of the amount of the crop grown the present year are premature, and opinions widely differ. While some suppose that it may reach 3,500,000 bales, others think that it will not exceed 2,900,000, 3,000,000. The latter contend that the planters have grown more grain this year than last, and that less land has been planted with cotton. Time alone can prove who is the nearest right. Flour was firm, without change in prices, while sales were more freely made. There was rather more doing in wheat, and with more stability in prices. Southern red brought \$2 a 2½c; fair to prime white, \$2 18 a \$2 25, and Western red, \$1 90 a \$1 92. Corn was firm at \$23 50 a \$24, and laid at 1½c. a 1½c. Freight was in better demand and rates closed with a better feeling. Several cargoes were made, including two or three for Marcellus.

The Great Struggle of 1856—The Federal Constitution Put Upon Trial.

The Presidential election of 1856 will be the first direct issue of the constitution upon the slavery question. It is vain for politicians and political managers longer to blink the subject or to seek its avoidance. It is neither possible or desirable to put off the trial. Within a short six months an effective fusion of all the anti-slavery elements has been successfully secured, and a grand abolition party has been organized. That party is based upon sentiments utterly antagonistic to the principles upon which the government of the United States was formed. By its avowed maxims and its declared purposes, by its articles of faith and its rituals of service, by the known character of its members, the declarations of its leaders and by the unity and strength of its movements, we are forced to the conclusion that the coming Presidential election will be the first, and probably the last, great struggle between the constitution of 1787 and the anti-slavery and abolition fanaticism of the North, stimulated by all the effort, means and influence of the governing classes in Western Europe. Such is already the issue forced upon the American people by the recent organization of the abolition party of the North. All other questions have been thrust aside for that one great struggle, involving the present Union and the whole government founded by Washington.

It affects every interest of the republic. The financial, political, manufacturing, commercial, agricultural—our great railroad thoroughfares, our marts of trade, the vast expenditures of years to adapt ourselves to the present condition of things—are more or less put to hazard by that election. It will surpass in deep importance that which resulted in the triumph of Jefferson in 1800, and of Jackson in 1828, as much as the union and progress of the whole republic does that of the mere petty questions of office and policy. All Europe will watch the struggle—the monarchists and aristocrats hoping that the Union may perish in the triumph of abolition; scarcely greater is the hope that the Allied Powers may be successful in the East than that the demons of disunion may win their victories over the American constitution. As formidable as is the Russian empire, as steadily as that government interposes a check to the schemes of universal dominion concocted by the Western Alliance, the American system of rule is a more dangerous and a more effective instrument for subverting the plans of France and England than even that absolute Power. Russia exercises a negative influence upon the governments of Western Europe. They contend with her now for the purpose of disabling her—to cripple her energies—to render her a harmless antagonist at some future day, when otherwise she might become capable of independent and triumphant action. The aggressive power of Russia is in her army and her navy—the aggressive power of the United States is in the example of their free government, in the universal education of their people, in ideas diffused amongst all classes and amongst all men.

Let us regard for a moment the interest which the monarchical and aristocratic classes in Western Europe have in the triumph of the abolitionists in this country. They feel the effect of the union of even the democracy of the Old World, where it has not a voice to utter its grievances, not a drum to beat to quarters, not a house for council, not a gun for defence—where it is a poor hunted cabal, driven to acts of desperation, and often disgraced, by the fierce persecutions of the governing classes. In 1848, when monarchy was resting upon the solid triumphs of the Napoleonic wars—upon the statutes of Vienna in 1815—the spirit of liberty suddenly arose, like a giant refreshed from sleep, and in a moment there was not a throne upon the Continent, save that of Russia, that did not either crumble into dust or totter and shake to its very centre. Such a mountain of injustice, extortion and suffering had been heaped up that in heaving the huge mass from its centre it tore up the very foundations of society. In its reconstruction the old governing classes were able again to become rulers. This reference to the past eight years is enough to show that even the democracy of Europe is a threatening and dangerous element in their government.

No sooner had the new order of things been established than the Cabinets of Paris and London turned their attention to the United States. They had an adjourned difficulty with Russia, but it was not then supposed possible that it could result in war. They sent over to us the tripartite treaty. By it they proposed to inaugurate European intervention in American politics, making an issue upon the question of Cuba, and ultimately to set positive limits to the further progress of this republic. The grand scheme was to bring the United States into subjection to the Western Powers—to take from us the prestige of independent action—to discredit our system in the eyes of the masses of Europe, and in that way to impair and break the force of its example. Lord Clarendon made formal announcement of the intentions of the Allied governments in this respect. The British aristocracy had been leading our Ministers and our Northern editors visiting England—they had leagued themselves with our abolitionists—they be-

came the allies of our traitors, stimulating a war upon the institutions of the South with a view of dissolving the federal Union. The connection of the two continents, and the alarming assimilation of ideas, rendered it necessary that something should be done.

Upon an average, thirty thousand letters are transmitted from this country to Europe by every steamer that leaves our shores. Thirty thousand messengers are thus periodically despatched into every nook and corner of the Eastern world, to expatiate upon the institutions of the United States. Thus a million and a half of witnesses are annually furnished by the American people to their brethren on the other side of the Atlantic, to give testimony of the operations of republicanism in the United States—to tell them how individuals can protect themselves; how labor is rewarded; how education is general; how peaceful and successful are all our industrial interests. At this point of view we can see the silent, but effective influence of the American upon the European system of government. The curious and speculative reader who has witnessed the almost marvellous changes which have occurred in England and on the Continent within a short period—changes which have brought even the London Times into the very meshes of democracy; which have compelled the British Cabinet continually to thrust forward reform projects, to satisfy the people; which have just now forced the Queen's government to reverse a rule of two hundred years standing, by which all important appointments have been made from the aristocracy at home, by conferring upon Mr. Hinks, a colonial subject, and one of the people, the Governorship of Barbados—changes which have driven the government into close alliance with a dynasty to overthrow which, less than fifty years ago, on account of its illegitimacy, it involved the country in a measureless debt and a long and frightful war; that have compelled even the Asiatic ruler of all the Russias to coalesce with the middling and the lower orders, and confer the chief places in his Cabinet upon persons of those classes, in order to defend his government against the aristocracy of the Empire—we repeat, that the curious reader will not fail to attribute these wonderful events to the influence of the institutions of the United States. All these changes, it will be remembered, have taken place since the establishment of the American government. If they are coincidences, they are certainly very remarkable; for every step that has been taken by the rulers of the Old World has been in the direction of the institutions of the New. The present dynasty of France is an authoritative recognition of the doctrines of popular rights—doctrines now almost universally acquiesced in in Europe, even in palpable violation of the statutes of the Congress of Vienna of 1815, which were declared to be the "unalterable law" of the States represented in that body.

The emigration to the United States, and the intimate manner, through that agency, in which we have become linked to the Old World, by its reactive influence, is enough of itself ultimately to effect a complete revolution in Europe. Thus we have a view of the interest which the governing classes on the other side have in destroying the federal Union. It is their only remedy. They cannot stop the work by proscribing persons. They cannot localize or individualize the principle that is warring upon the tenures of absolute power. Newspapers may be interdicted, personal restraints may be imposed, the public voice may be suppressed; but there is no power to prevent men from thinking or ideas from circulating. There may be aristocracy in government; but there will ever be democracy in thought.

We have thus, then, to fight in the coming Presidential election the combined aristocracy of our own country.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—STATEMENT OF DOCTOR KANE.—The Herald and several other city journals have published detailed accounts of the trials and happy return of the Arctic expedition under Doctor Kane's command. In these publications the word "statement" is used in such a manner as to lead people to suppose that the Chief of the Expedition has given an official account of it. Such is not the fact. On the night of the return of the Arctic and Release, fifteen or twenty reporters were despatched to different parts of the city to hunt up the intrepid navigators. Several of these gentlemen had interviews with Dr. Kane, Dr. Hayes, Mr. Sontag and others, and jotted down the result. Dr. Kane was the centre about which revolved a large circle of eager listeners and close questioners. He replied courteously to their inquiries, and his remarks, as well as those of his compatriots, were placed before the public in the form of a connected narrative, and called statements. But the rules of the service of which Dr. Kane is so brilliant an ornament, prevent any officer from making an official report to any person except the Secretary of the Navy. In consequence of this fact we shall be obliged to wait for Doctor Kane's official statement until Mr. Dobbin allows a copy to be made for the press. We trust that the Hon. Secretary will make so interesting a document public as soon as possible.

BUYING A COFFIN.—The London correspondent of the *Inverness* (Scotland) *Advertiser*, gets off the following bit of experience of a model temperance man:—

"The other evening, at a temperance meeting, a person in the hall got up and said, 'My friends, three months ago I signed the pledge. (Clapping of hands and approving cheers.) In a month afterwards, my friends, I had a severe fit in my pocket—a thing I never had before. (Clapping and cheering.) In another month, my friends, I had a good cut on my back—a thing I never had before. (Cheers and clapping much louder.) A fortnight after that, my friends, I bought a coffin. (The audience was going to cheer here, but stopped and looked serious.) 'You wonder,' continued the lecturer, 'why I bought a coffin. Well, my friends, I bought the coffin because I felt pretty certain that if I kept this pledge another fortnight I should want one.'"

Apply this to President Pierce and his adoption into the regular democratic party of the Van Buren free soil Buffalo seceders, and it fits remarkably. Of the Baltimore Convention of '52, Mr. Pierce signed the pledge; in his inaugural address he put a new coat upon his back, and in a certain removal from our Custom House, in connection with other transactions, he bought his coffin, and the hard shells have been drumming upon it ever since. Who has the Scarlet letter?

LATEST ON THE DANISH SOUND QUESTION.—That a special messenger has not been sent to our Minister at Copenhagen to reopen negotiations, but that Marcy holds his ground for a repeal of the tolls, or for war. All of which, as usual, will end in a back out.

THE PENNSYLVANIA AND OHIO ELECTIONS.—Chase, the abolition candidate for Governor, in Ohio, is elected by a large plurality over Medill, democrat, and very probably by a majority of some two or three thousand over both Medill and Trimble, independent. This result is claimed by the Seward fusionists as a tremendous victory; but, compared with their eighty thousand majority in the State last year, it is a tremendous loss. In the same ratio of loss, another such election will reduce the fusionists to a decided minority in the great State of Ohio. Had the independent whig and Know Nothing conservative movement commenced a little earlier, they might have done the work this season. Their great mistake was in awaiting the action of the convention which nominated the abolition fusion Chase ticket. The anti-administration conservatives should have kept aloof from the Seward fusionists, and should have taken the field from the start in behalf of the principles of the Union and the constitution.

In Pennsylvania the success of the democrats is the natural result of the attempt to fuse the national and free soil Know Nothings, the old whigs, the free soilers proper and the radical abolitionists, without any common principle of action, except free soil and a common eleven hour candidate for Canal Commissioner. The incongruous and diverse materials that had carried the State with such a rush the year before, as to lead to the belief that they were absolutely irresistible, had been quarrelling over the blunder. The effort of the Know Nothings to elect Simon Cameron to the United States Senate had much to do with the alienation of the whig and Know Nothing conservatives from this free soil and pliable Know Nothing and Know Something coalition. That Cameronian experiment, in fact, was the entering wedge to the dissolution of that mongrel alliance of which, in Pennsylvania, nothing but the scattered fragments now remain. It must be remembered, however, that considerable numbers of whig conservatives in this last election voted the democratic ticket, as the choice between two evils, so that the result is no test of the actual strength of the Pennsylvania democracy, nor any proof of a returning popularity to the administration.

The net results of all these late elections are that the Know Nothing or American order, with its present organization and proscriptive principles, will not answer as the basis of a great and homogeneous national party—that the abolition league in the North, though broken in Pennsylvania, still holds the vantage ground in Ohio; and that the democratic party is rapidly coming together again, while the conservative elements of opposition to the Pierce administration are still adrift, North and South. Beyond these fixed facts, everything in reference to the campaign for the Presidency is still in doubt. We believe, however, that North and South, an overwhelming majority of the American people are in favor of the Union and the constitution; and that a decided majority are in favor of a new administration at Washington. The politics and parties of the whole country are still in a state of effervescence and revolution, and nothing short of three or four months of the approaching Congress will put them into a definite shape for the great battle of '56.

A MORMON ASTRONOMER.—THE LAW OF PLANETARY ROTATION DISCOVER